

Dear FCC Officials:

I'm writing to alert you to growing concerns I have about your commission's failure to fairly regulate the public airwaves. I believe the increased percentage of ownership of the airwaves by large companies like Sinclair Broadcasting is jeopardizing the integrity of independent journalism and the free press. Sinclair's recent decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary (under the guise of "news"), pre-empting prime time broadcasting just days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation in the political process in this country.

I don't believe Sinclair owns a station here in Alaska, so I'm fortunate in a way. Alaska's citizens are very opinionated and speak their minds freely. For one, I plan to do everything I can to ensure that the FCC protects the free and independent use of our public airwaves. Let Sinclair broadcast what it pleases, but demand equal time for this political spot to the opposing view....don't pretend it's news.

You, like many journalists, will have to decide whether or not you're willing to stand up and defend "freedom of the press" in this country - a freedom honored and judicially defended for its ability to deliver the facts and opposing viewpoints to keep the public informed. An informed public, not the broadcasters, not the media moguls, must determine the fate of this country.

Knowledge is power and control of the dissemination of information labeled as news over the public airwaves is your responsibility. Please do your part in protecting the flow of truth (in the form of dissenting opinion, of course) by ensuring the fair and equitable use of the public's airwaves.

Thank you.  
Kay Rollison